



Top 10 Common Casey's Law Myths



CASEY'S LAW

Myth 1

You must be biologically related to an individual to file a Casey's Law petition.



False

Any adult with firsthand knowledge of the individual's substance use—such as a friend, stepfamily member, or concerned community member—can file.

Myth 2

Filing a Casey's Law petition means the person (Or respondent) will automatically be forced into treatment.



False

Treatment can only be ordered by the court, if two qualified professionals (Medical and mental health) confirm all legal criteria have been met.

Myth 3

A Casey's Law petition can be file for a minor.



False

Casey's Law only applies to individuals age 18 and older.

Myth 4

You can file a Casey's Law petition in any county.



False

The petition must be filed in the county of the respondents legal residence (Their official address), even if they are located in a different area.

Myth 5

If the respondent moves to a different county, you can no longer file a Casey's Law petition on that individual.



False

You can still file in county of legal residence, or where the court has jurisdiction.

Myth 6

The Casey's Law Petitioner must assume all financial responsibility for the Casey's Law petitioner.



False

The petitioner is listed as financially responsible on the on all documents; However, many financial supports are available. You are not alone in this process.

Myth 7

Casey's Law is a Criminal Proceeding and if a judge orders a person to treatment, the individual loses all their rights.



False

These hearings are civil probable cause hearings. Individuals retain all constitutional and statutory rights, including the right to an attorney, the right to attend the hearing, and the right to appeal.

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Myth 8

You can only file a Casey's Law petition on an individual one time.



False

If relapse occurs, or treatment doesn't succeed the first time, families can file again. Casey's Law is written to provide multiple opportunities to recover.

Myth 9

Casey's Law is not effective, and cannot guarantee recovery.



False

While no law can "guarantee" and individuals recovery, Casey's Law creates a lifeline by providing access to treatment which might otherwise not happen. Many families credit Casey's Law with saving their loved one's life. There is hope and people do recover.

Myth 10

The petitioner is required to file independently with limited guidance and help.



False

Local recovery organizations provide step-by-step guidance. Additional resources include:

- KY HELP Statewide Call Center: 1-877-318-1871
- Northern Kentucky Helpline: 859-415-9280
- Caseyslaw.org (information, forms, and resources)
- Spark Ministries (Eastern KY support): 606-612-5125

You are not alone!



Reach Out to Your Local Casey's Law Advocate

Connect with a local advocate in your area who specializes in Casey's Law navigation to assist throughout the process. Designated Casey's Law advocates often have firsthand experience and can provide invaluable support.

Below are some trusted resources to assist with the Casey's Law Process:

- Ask your County Attorney's Office, Circuit or District Clerk's Office (depending on county) some offices may have an advocate or direct you to someone who can help.
- Casey's Law Website
 - Visit: CaseysLaw.org
- Visit: Spark Ministries <http://www.kyspark.org>
 - Call: 606-612-5125
- Northern Kentucky Helpline (NKYODCP)
 - Visit: nkyodcp.org
 - Call: 859-415-9280
- KY HELP Statewide Call Center
 - Call: 1-877-318-1871 to speak with a screening and referral specialist

